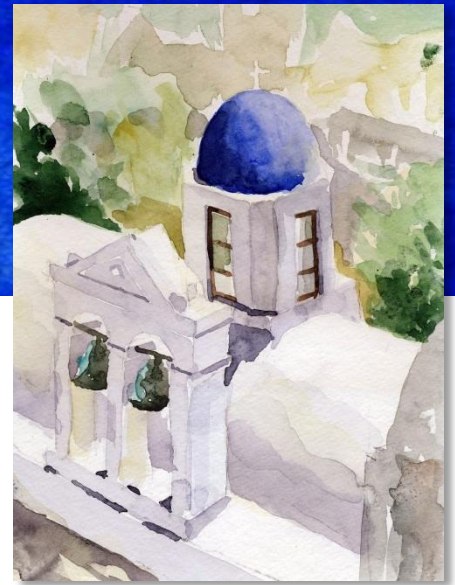




College of Architecture & Environmental Design



ARCH – 40693 Watercolor: Versatile Medium for Expressive Art

Spring 2010 Non-Major Credit Elective 3 Credit Hours

Saturdays, 10AM – 12PM Two Full Saturday Field Trips (see below)

Maximum Number of Students: **16**

Professor: Christopher A. Lobas, Architect, LEED AP

Phone: 216-201-0691 Email: clobas@kent.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

CLASS OFFERED (PRIMARILY) TO STUDENTS IN:

Education, Architecture, Interior Design, Art, and Visual Communication Design

Other students can take this course with permission of the instructor

STUDENTS ADMITTED:

Selection by Professor, based on students who express an interest and **submit one artwork sample**.

For this sample, wet media preferred but not required. Scan and send to the instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of transparent watercolor, and an exploration of the uses of wet media for:

- 1) Design Ideas. Quick, exuberant expressions.
- 2) Sketches from life. Observed subjects, models, still lifes, landscapes, and scenery.
- 3) Finished Pieces. Artistic renderings.

Units will include history and utilization of watercolors, basics of composition and layout, monochrome pieces emphasizing value, color pigments, washes and layering, brushwork and wet on wet, traditional and experimental techniques, and unique creative projects. Along the way, students will deepen both perceptual and creative skills, and deepen aesthetic appreciation through appraisal of each other's' projects.

Teachers will be given a special unit in assessing student progress in watercolors, and assisting in the development of individualized processes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

A. Knowledge

1. Fundamental tools and materials of watercolor painting.
2. Basic techniques and principles applicable to the art of watercolor painting.
3. Terminology used in to the practice of watercolors

B. Skills

1. Correct technical use of tools and materials of the watercolor medium
2. Facility in handling watercolor paints
4. Demonstration of a variety of basic watercolor techniques, and correct utilization of brushes and other tools
3. Higher acuity in sensory perception

C. Attributes

1. Intuition in the creation of quick design sketches.
2. Discipline and accuracy in the creation of sketches from life.
3. Practice and perseverance in the creation of final pieces.

Finally, an unmistakable truth: Doing is the major part of knowing.

COURSE TEXTS:

No Required Texts.

Recommended Texts.

Albert, Greg. (1991). Basic Watercolor Techniques. North Light Books. Cincinnati, OH
Brett, Bernard. (1984). A History of Watercolor. Excalibur Books. New York, NY
Edwards, Betty. (1999). (The New) Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain. Tarcher. New York, NY
Harrison, Hazel. (2006). Encyclopedia of Watercolor Techniques.

Texts from professor's library. Available for use during class:

Bye, Ranulph. (1994). Painting Buildings in Watercolor. North Light Books. Cincinnati, OH
Civardi, Giovanni. (2006). Complete Guide to Drawing. Search Press Limited. London.
Harrison, Hazel. (1988). The Complete Artist. Selffleet Press. Secaucus, NJ
Hill, Tom. (1992). The Architect's Complete Guide to Color. North Light Books. Cincinnati, OH
Nice, Claudia. (2003). Painting Weathered Buildings in Watercolor. F+W Publications. Cincinnati, OH
Otis, Michaelin. (2005). Painting People in Watercolor. North Light Books. Cincinnati, OH
Reid, Charles. (1979). Flower Painting in Watercolor. Watson-Guptill Publications. New York, NY
Taylor, Richard. (2003). Skies and Clouds in Watercolor. Collins & Brown. New York, NY
Ward, Mike. (1991). The New Spirit of Watercolor. North Light Books. Cincinnati, OH
Wilcox, Michael. (1989). Yellow and Blue Don't Make Green. Rockport Publishers. Rockport, MA

PAINTING SUPPLIES: (Purchased by the student. Most available from Utrecht Art Store).

1. Set of artist grade tube watercolors by Yarka St. Petersburg. 24 colors in cakes. \$50.00
2. Watercolor palette, round 8" diameter or so. \$5.00
3. Watercolor pad, 8-1/2 x 11 or larger. \$12.00
Recommended: Strathmore Field Watercolor & Sketch Book - 14" x 11"
A hardbound book that alternates 140lb Cold Press Watercolor Paper with 60lb Sketch Paper
4. Watercolor pad, 18 x 24. \$16.00
Recommended: Strathmore Watercolor Pad – 18" x 24"
140 lb Cold Press Watercolor Paper.
5. Watercolor brushes, sable: 1" Flat, Rounds No. 16, No. 12, No. 6, No. 2 or No. 0.
Best: Utrecht Red Sable. Synthetic are acceptable to accommodate budget. \$20 - \$50
6. Sponge (various available)
7. Pencils (HB or harder) and large kneaded eraser
8. Fiberboard portfolio, 24" x 36"
9. Container for water (Large used plastic spaghetti sauce jar works fine)
10. One roll of paper towels

COURSE SCHEDULE:

READINGS on History and Application of Watercolor will be assigned and received via the Kent State Vista teaching and learning interface on alternate Tuesdays.

CLASSES will be held on Saturdays, with two to three out of class field excursions

UNIT ONE - WATERCOLOR FOR DESIGN.

- JAN 30: Introduction to the tools, materials, medium, and procedures.
Review of fundamentals of loose, accurate freehand drawing.
Elementary exercises with fast brushwork and calligraphic brushstrokes.
Utilization of watercolor as a quick sketching medium for design ideas.
First assignment group: Free, expressionist watercolor sketches of
DESIGN IDEAS in your area of expertise or interest.
- FEB 6: Work with four methods of application of color.
Experimentation with transparency and layering of monochrome washes.
Additional free, abstract, and design watercolors.
- FEB 13: Additional design watercolors. Work with experimental and unorthodox methods.
Lifting with tissues, salt, scraping, splattering, and wraps. Masking and resist.
- FEB 20: Design watercolors – substantial completion. Finish in this class, with class appraisal and group critique at the end of class.

UNIT TWO - WATERCOLOR FROM LIFE.

- FEB 27: Abstracted realism with still lives. Emphasis on the depiction of light.
Second assignment group: Watercolors from observed sources.
Persons, Places, Things.
- MAR 6: Additional still lives. Expressionistic treatment. Mixed media.
- MAR 13: Figure drawing / painting slated, pending model availability.
- MAR 20: SATURDAY. Field Trip, 10 AM – 5 PM. Weather permitting.
Site to be a)Stan Hywet Hall OR
b)Downtown Akron
- MAR 27: Watercolor from life – substantial completion. Finish in this class, with class appraisal and group critique at the end of class.

UNIT THREE - WATERCOLOR FOR FINISHED RENDERINGS.

APR 3: Determination of image and treatment. Begin tracing with light table.
Masking as necessary. Introduction of first washes.
Final assignment group: Finished large rendering.

APR 10: Continue progress on large painting

APR 17: As above

APR 24: As above

MAY 1: SATURDAY. Field Trip, 10 AM – 5 PM. Weather permitting.
Site to be a) Downtown Cleveland OR
b) University Circle

MAY 8: Final Review.

SKILLS ASSIGNMENTS

30 points possible

Overall quality of layout and lettering = 6 points.

Below, each worth 2 point

1. Calligraphic brush strokes (may be 2-3 pages in all)
2. Graded washes (fill entire page, no white showing)
3. Flat washes (fill entire page, no white showing)
4. Layered washes (fill entire page, no white showing)
5. Wet on wet technique page
6. Wet on dry technique page
7. Drybrush paint page
8. Dry on wet technique page
9. Plastic wrap technique
10. Salt technique
11. Scraping technique
12. Sponge technique

HISTORY ASSIGNMENTS

Research and reading assignments – History of Watercolor – 10 points

Report on individual watercolorist and his or her style – 10 points

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

Watercolors for Design (5 pages, each worth 10 points)

Watercolors from Life (5 pages, each worth 10 points)

Watercolor for Finished Rendering (1 18x24 sheet, worth 50 points)

EVALUATION :

Projects will be graded on

- * Clarity of intent
- * Quality of craft
- * Creativity and feeling